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NOTES.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS has just issued a reprint of the *Dialogues* published by W. S. in 1581. As is well known, William Shakespeare, Lord Bacon, Sir Thomas Smith, William Smith (nephew of the preceding who tried to obtain succession to his uncle's estates in Ireland), William Stafford (at the instigation of Farmer and Anthony à Wood), a John Yates, and others have all been credited with the dialogues. The late Elizabeth Lamond, of Girton College, Cambridge, in an article in the *English Historical Review* for April, 1891, proved to the satisfaction of most scholars (among them Professor Cossa, *Introduzione*, 3d ed., 198; Professor Cunningham, *English Industry*, vol. ii. p. 68; Professor Ashley, *Economic History*, vol. i. 260) that the dialogue was written by John Hales, who was on the Commission appointed to inquire into "Enclosures," in June, 1548, and who died in 1572. All the editions known to us, those of 1751 (reprint by Charles Marsh), 1808 (Harleian Miscellany, vol. ix.), 1813 (Pamphleteer, vol. v.), and of 1876 (New Shakespeare Society, Series vi., No. 3), were reprints from that of 1581, which was issued by W. S. with an "Epistle Dedicatory" purporting that he was the author. Miss Lamond, who was already known to the world as the joint editor, with Dr. Cunningham, of *Walter of Henley's Husbandry*, a work which laid the world of historial scholarship under many obligations to her, for her Transcripts and Translations and Glossary, had resolved to present the dialogue to students of economic history and theory in its earliest known form. She had prepared the transcript of the Lambarde MS., and the transcript of the Bodleian MS., and paved the way for the introduction to the present reprint by the article referred to, and had written some pages of the notes. On August 11, 1891, she was at work reading the proofs with the Lambarde MS. A few days later she died at her home in Edinburgh. For the completion of her work the world is indebted to Professor Cunningham of Cambridge. A description of the present reprint is given in the reviews.

PROFESSOR A. T. HADLEY, of Yale University, is engaged upon the preparation of a text-book of Political Economy.

DR. LUDWIG BAMBERGER'S *Die Stichworte der Silberleute* has been translated into French by Professor Raphaël-Georges Lévy, of the École des Sciences Politiques at Paris, and it will be published at an early date.

THE American Economic Association at its annual meeting brought together a large number of members. The discussion, precipitated by General F. A. Walker, as to the relation between the quantity of money and prices, reflects the interest drawn to this subject by the events of the summer. Professor J. B. Clark was elected President of the Association to succeed Professor C. F. Dunbar.

THE American Bankers' Association at Chicago naturally gave attention to the condition of our money system. Mr. Horace White touched upon the pivotal point when discussing the inelasticity of our existing forms of money. In addition, the desirability of a monetary commission to act as a permanent advising body, in case of needed legislation, was strongly presented and supported by all.

THE meeting at Chicago of the *Institut International de Statistique*, in September, drew to it the largest number of economists and statisticians gathered this year, although the arrangements were made independently of the plans for the Exposition Congresses. The papers read were exceptionally good, and the *Bulletin* in which they are printed will be awaited with interest. It is interesting to note that the Institute began a definite plan of action to secure systematic and uniform records of prices by the various countries represented. The Committee on Prices was, however, divided, with a European and an American *rapporteur* for each section of the Committee. The American Committee, consisting of J. Laurence Laughlin, *rapporteur*, Carroll D. Wright, Worthington C. Ford, Roland P. Falkner, and Arthur T. Hadley, will unite with the European Committee in deciding upon the system of collecting prices which it is deemed proper to urge upon the various governments; and then this American Committee will hope to obtain legislation to carry out the system for the United States.

IN the meeting of the State Bureaus of Labor Statistics for the thirty-one States, it was disclosed that the annual convention could not be held this year because every officer of the convention had been

retired from office in his respective bureau through change of politics during the past year. Twelve of the twenty-two bureaus established prior to 1890 have been struck by a cyclone of political change within two years, most of them within one year; the president, Mr. Peck of New York, was in disgrace, as was also the president of the factory inspectors, a former chief of the Ohio bureau. As a result of these changes, only eight states were represented in an informal conference held at the University of Chicago in October. It cannot be expected that valuable statistical work will be done by the state bureaus until some change is made in the methods of appointment of the civil service.

IN the Congress on Moral and Social Reform, held in Chicago, a paper was presented on the State Employment Bureau in Ohio which has proved a great success, and upon the municipal pawnshop at Antwerp. Although the trend of American thinking has been very much against state activity in relief of the poor, Professor Amos G. Warner holds that where the sum necessarily spent for poor relief is very large, state regulation is probably needed, admitting, of course, that it must be attended with an improved civil service.

The purely economic congresses, however, began with the Labor Congress, held at the Memorial Art Palace, August 28 to September 4. This congress, while largely attended by social reformers and labor leaders, was not after all as representative of the labor organizations of the country as had been expected. Over half the organizations were not directly represented at all. Mr. Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, P. J. McGuire of the Carpenters' Union, Geo. E. McNeill, the veteran labor leader of Boston, and a few others prominent in the ranks of labor were active participants. The rules governing all the congresses, which prevented direct voting on resolutions, proved to be a disappointment to some of the labor representatives. Interest, therefore, centered wholly in the papers read. A marked influence over the convention was exercised by the Fabian socialists from London. Mr. Herbert Burrows, and Mr. William Clarke emphasized the growing demand for state action, which was urged as especially desirable in establishing a legal eight-hour working day, in securing public ownership of means of transportation and communication and of electric light plants, and in providing employment on public works for those unable to get other kinds of work.

A prominent part was taken by women; especially prominent were Mrs. Helen Campbell, Miss Catharine Coman of Wellesley, Miss Lucy Salmon of Vassar, Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Mrs. Florence Kelley of the Illinois Inspectors of Factories, Miss Clare De Graffenried of the Department of Labor at Washington, Mrs. Eva McDonald Valesh of St. Paul. A paper by Lady Dilke also was read. Mr. Henry George constantly urged, even when the progress of negroes as free laborers was under discussion, that the single tax was the thing needful. He did not obtain the sympathy of labor leaders present. Few economists holding chairs in our colleges were present. This was due to the inability of the authorities to impress thoughtful people with the importance of the proposed congresses.

While this congress was in session, a smaller congress met in another part of the Art Palace,—the “Social and Economic Science Congress”. Papers by E. Benj. Andrews, J. B. Clark, E. Levasseur, J. W. Jenks and J. W. Burgess were read and discussed. One day was devoted to Profit-Sharing: Mr. N. O. Nelson of St. Louis, who has applied the principles of Profit-Sharing to his own business with success, held that with the right attitude of mind on the part of the employer, profit-sharing succeeds; but that it is not, as some advocates of it have held, a universal remedy.

The convention of the inspectors of factories in the United States and Canada, held at the University of Chicago a week later, was decidedly interesting. About seventy-five attended, of whom nearly half were from Illinois, of all states probably the most active, with the possible exception of Switzerland, in successfully enforcing good factory legislation. Delegations were present also from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Canada, while two or three other American states that have factory boards were represented. The pay of these inspectors in many states west of New England is not sufficient to enlist the men best suited for the work. A few reformers more or less connected with the Hull House Settlement in Chicago, and with the labor organizations of Chicago, secured the passage of the Illinois law, prohibiting all children under the age of fourteen from laboring in factories and workshops, requiring certificates of age for children under sixteen, and even prohibiting in such factories and workshops all work of minors and women for more than eight hours a day. Eastern inspectors had held it to be impossible to enforce so radical a change, until public sentiment should be slowly educated up to it.